

**San José State University**  
**Department of Psychology**  
**PSYC 142, Child Psychopathology, Sec. 03**  
**Fall, 2014**

<b>Instructor:</b>	Greg Berg, Ph.D.
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<b>Office Hours:</b>	Tuesdays and Thursdays 1:30-4:30pm, or by appointment
<b>Class Days/Time:</b>	Tues. and Thurs. 4:30-5:45
<b>Classroom:</b>	DMH 356
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	Psychology 001

**Faculty Web Page and MYSJSU Messaging**

Copies of the course materials such as the syllabus, major assignment handouts, etc. may be found on my faculty web page at <http://www.sjsu.edu/people/greg.berg> or accessible through the Quick Links>Faculty Web Page links on the SJSU home page. You are responsible for regularly checking with the messaging system through MySJSU (or other communication system as indicated by the instructor).

**Course Description**

This course will survey abnormal child psychology from several perspectives, including classification of abnormal behavior, major theories of etiology, and treatment. Students will analyze the complexity of childhood psychological disorders from an integrative perspective that acknowledges biological, psychological, social, and emotional influences on the personal and emotional development of children. The societal and cultural norms which influence child and adolescent behavior will be examined. Students will be encouraged to think critically about such areas as the stigma and labels associated with the development of psychological disorders. At the conclusion of the course, students will be more sensitive to issues of childhood dysfunction and be more knowledgeable about the impact of mental illness on children, adolescents and their families.

## Learning Outcomes

### Course Learning Outcomes (CLOs)

Upon successful completion of this course, students will be able to:

1. Students will develop an understanding of the various childhood psychological disorders, their causes, and their treatments.
2. Students will gain knowledge of the assessment tools used in evaluation of children, adolescents, and their families.
3. Students will become familiar with the concepts of normal and abnormal behaviors, and the biases and stigmas which often are applied to psychologically ill children and adolescents.
4. Students will explore the impact of abnormal and dysfunctional behaviors on the developing child's identity and sense of well being.
5. Students will develop an understanding of the impact of psychological disorders upon children, adolescents, and their families, and the psychosocial influences of family, community, class, and culture in a diverse, multicultural society.

### Program Learning Outcomes (PLO)

Upon successful completion of the psychology major requirements...

*PLO1 – Knowledge Base of Psychology* – Students will be able to identify, describe, and communicate the major concepts, theoretical perspectives, empirical findings, and historical trends in psychology.

*PLO2 – Research Methods in Psychology* – Students will be able to design, implement, and communicate basic research methods in psychology, including research design, data analysis, and interpretations.

*PLO3 – Critical Thinking Skills in Psychology* – Students will be able to use critical and creative thinking, skeptical inquiry, and a scientific approach to address issues related to behavior and mental processes.

*PLO4 – Application of Psychology* – Students will be able to apply psychological principles to individual, interpersonal, group, and societal issues.

*PLO5 – Values in Psychology* – Students will value empirical evidence, tolerate ambiguity, act ethically, and recognize their role and responsibility as a member of society.

## **Required Texts/Readings**

### **Textbook**

Mash and Wolfe, *Abnormal Child Psychology* 4th Ed. Thompson-Wadsworth

ISBN: 04995506273

### **Definition of a Credit Hour**

Success in this course is based on the expectation that students will spend, for each unit of credit, a minimum of forty-five hours over the length of the course (normally 3 hours per unit per week with 1 of the hours used for lecture) for instruction or preparation/ studying or course related activities including but not limited to internships, labs, clinical practica. Other course structures will have equivalent workload expectations as described in the syllabus.

As an example, the expectation of work for a 3-credit course is 150-minutes of direct faculty instruction and six hours of out-of-class student work each week.

## **Classroom Protocol**

Participation is an important component of this class experience. Therefore, attendance is very important. If you do arrive late, please enter the class in a non-disruptive manner. Out of respect for your fellow students, please put cell phones on silent and do not use them during class. Also, use laptops only for classroom activities.

## **Dropping and Adding**

Students are responsible for understanding the policies and procedures about add/drop, grade forgiveness, etc. Refer to the current semester's [Catalog Policies](http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html) section at <http://info.sjsu.edu/static/catalog/policies.html>. Add/drop deadlines can be found on the [current academic calendar](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/) web page located at [http://www.sjsu.edu/academic\\_programs/calendars/academic\\_calendar/](http://www.sjsu.edu/academic_programs/calendars/academic_calendar/). The [Late Drop Policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/aars/policies/latedrops/policy/>. Students should be aware of the current deadlines and penalties for dropping classes.

Information about the latest changes and news is available at the [Advising Hub](http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/) at <http://www.sjsu.edu/advising/>.

## **Assignments and Grading Policy**

### Course Requirements

Quizzes (9)	180 points
Exams (3)	150 points
Final	50 points
Child Observation Paper	30 points
Participation	100 points (approx.)

On each date that a chapter is first assigned, a quiz covering that chapter will be given at the onset of class. Makeup quizzes can be taken for half credit.

Class assignments will be undertaken at various times throughout the semester. These assignments will be done in class in small groups, with all members receiving the same participation score.

Three midterms will be given on the dates per the class schedule. The first midterm will cover the first three assigned chapters. The second midterm will cover the next three assigned chapters. The third midterm will cover the last three assigned chapters. The final will be cumulative and will focus on treatment considerations.

Grading will be based on a modified curve.

### Child Observation Paper

Each student will be responsible for completing an observation of a child or adolescent. The observation should be a minimum of one hour and can be broken into two or three segments. The paper describing the observation should include:

- a. Data on the subject (age, gender, any disabilities or conditions, etc.)
- b. The setting in which the observation(s) took place.
- c. What was observed (family interactions, play, homework, etc.)
- d. What you learned.

These papers will be due on November 30, when there will be a general class discussion and sharing of the various observations. Grading of the papers will be based upon the following:

- 50% - content
- 30% - originality
- 20% - mechanics (grammar, spelling, composition)

## **University Policies**

### **Academic integrity**

Your commitment as a student to learning is evidenced by your enrollment at San Jose State University. The [University's Academic Integrity policy](http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm), located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/senate/S07-2.htm>, requires you to be honest in all your academic course work. Faculty members are required to report all infractions to the office of Student Conduct and Ethical Development. The [Student Conduct and Ethical Development website](http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/) is available at <http://www.sjsu.edu/studentconduct/>.

Instances of academic dishonesty will not be tolerated. Cheating on exams or plagiarism (presenting the work of another as your own, or the use of another person's ideas without giving proper credit) will result in a failing grade and sanctions by the University. For this class, all assignments are to be completed by the individual student unless otherwise specified. If you would like to include your assignment or any material you have submitted, or plan to submit for another class, please note that SJSU's Academic Policy S07-2 requires approval of instructors.

### **Campus Policy in Compliance with the American Disabilities Act**

If you need course adaptations or accommodations because of a disability, or if you need to make special arrangements in case the building must be evacuated, please make an appointment with me as soon as possible, or see me during office hours. Presidential Directive 97-03 requires that students with disabilities requesting accommodations must register with the [Disability Resource Center](http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/) (DRC) at <http://www.drc.sjsu.edu/> to establish a record of their disability.

## **Student Technology Resources**

Computer labs for student use are available in the Academic Success Center located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall and on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor of the Student Union. Additional computer labs may be available in your department/college. Computers are also available in the Martin Luther King Library.

A wide variety of audio-visual equipment is available for student checkout from Media Services located in IRC 112. These items include digital and VHS camcorders, VHS and Beta video players, 16 mm, slide, overhead, DVD, CD, and audiotape players, sound systems, wireless microphones, projection screens and monitors.

## **Learning Assistance Resource Center**

The Learning Assistance Resource Center (LARC) is located in Room 600 in the Student Services Center. It is designed to assist students in the development of their full academic potential and to inspire them to become independent learners. The Center's tutors are trained and nationally certified by the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA). They provide content-based tutoring in many lower division courses (some upper division) as well as writing and study skills assistance. Small group, individual, and drop-in tutoring are available. Please visit [the LARC website](http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/) for more information at <http://www.sjsu.edu/larc/>.

## **SJSU Writing Center**

The SJSU Writing Center is located in Room 126 in Clark Hall. It is staffed by professional instructors and upper-division or graduate-level writing specialists from each of the seven SJSU colleges. Our writing specialists have met a rigorous GPA requirement, and they are well trained to assist all students at all levels within all disciplines to become better writers. The [Writing Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/writingcenter/about/staff/>.

## **Peer Mentor Center**

The Peer Mentor Center is located on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of Clark Hall in the Academic Success Center. The Peer Mentor Center is staffed with Peer Mentors who excel in helping students manage university life, tackling problems that range from academic challenges to interpersonal struggles. On the road to graduation, Peer Mentors are navigators, offering “roadside assistance” to peers who feel a bit lost or simply need help mapping out the locations of campus resources. Peer Mentor services are free and available on a drop –in basis, no reservation required. The [Peer Mentor Center website](http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/) is located at <http://www.sjsu.edu/muse/peermentor/>

## **Student Success and Wellness**

Attending to your wellness is critical to your success at SJSU. I strongly encourage you to take advantage of the workshops and programs offered through various Student Affairs Departments on campus such as Counseling Services, the SJSU Student Health Center/Wellness & Health Promotion Dept., and Career Center. See <http://www.sjsu.edu/wellness> or <http://www.sjsu.edu/counseling/Workshops/> for workshop/events schedule and links to many other services on campus that support your wellness! You may go to <http://events.sjsu.edu> to register for any one of the workshops.

Schedule of Classes, Fall '12  
Child Psychopathology – Psych 142

<u>Date</u>	<u>Assignment</u>	<u>Chapter</u>
Aug 26	Introduction	
Aug 28	Theories and Causes	2
Sep 02	“	
Sep 04	Assessment, Diagnosis, and Treatment	4
Sep 09	“	
Sep 11	Conduct Problems	6
Sep 16	“	
Sep 18	Exam I	
Sep 23	Substance Use Disorders	
Sep 25	ADHD	5
Sep 30	“	
Oct 02	Anxiety Disorders	7
Oct 07	“	
Oct 09	Mood Disorders	8
Oct 14	“	
Oct 16	Exam II	
Oct 21	Eating Disorders	
Oct 23	Autism	10
Oct 28	“	
Oct 30	Communication Disorders	11
Nov 04	“	

Nov 06	Child Maltreatment	14
Nov 13	“	
Nov 18	Exam III	
Nov 20	Observation reports	
Nov 25	Observation reports	
Dec 02	Guest Speaker	
Dec 04	Review	
Dec 09	Review	
Dec 18	Final (14:45–17:00)	

